

# RAILROAD UNIONS TO MEET MONDAY TO DISCUSS WAGES

# FEDERAL TRADE BODY TO PUSH 31 PACKERS' CASES

Washington, Dec. 26.—Heads of all railroad unions will meet here Monday to decide their future action on demands for wage increase now before the railroad administration, it was stated at the American Federation of Labor today.

The calling of the meeting is the result of President Wilson's decision made known Wednesday, to turn the roads back to their owners on March 1.

Previously the position of the workers has been that their demands must be answered before the roads pass out of government control.

The railroad chiefs who will attend comprise the heads of the four railroad brotherhoods and the ten railroad unions affiliated with the federation. Samuel Gompers, president of the federation, will preside.

The meeting will take up the demands of the shopmen and clerks for a 25 per cent increase, requests for which was made several months ago, but postponed at the request of President Wilson, who appealed to the workers to withhold their demands until the government has had an opportunity to smash living costs.

"The meeting will outline plans in connection with its request and also to prepare for the conference which we are to hold with Director General Hines, of the railroad administration," said John Scott, secretary of the railway workers section of the American Federation of Labor.

It is also stated that the question of whether the workers would wait until March 1 to take action to force compliance with their demands would also be considered at this meeting.

## President Advised.

Labor officials indicated they do not intend to wait until private interests had regained the railroads before forcing a decision on their requests.

Union officials have been informed that Mr. Hines is now fully advised by the president as to what he can do and how far he can go.

Workers believe they may be asked to withhold their demands another two months. They point out that Attorney General Palmer's report on living costs expressed the belief that another two months would see a reduction in prices.

At Mr. Palmer's office today it was said that the attorney general is considering getting out another and more important statement on the government's campaign to reduce prices. This will be made public before Monday, if he decides to issue it.

President Wilson's decision to turn the railroads back to their owners March 1, today brought into prominence two phases of the already complicated railroad problem.

First, the president's action may have postponed a little the "near crisis" brought on by requests of railroad labor for more money with the demand that they receive an answer to these requests before the roads pass out of the government's hands.

Second, the railroad question has apparently been made a political issue.

The two phases of the situation are interwoven since the railroad workers are threatening to carry their agitation for continuation of government control to the ballot box.

## MAKING GOOD ON ROAD.

Dr. C. A. Milford who has been spending the holidays with his home people leaves in a few days for Holyoke, Mass., where he has a responsible position with White and Wyckoff as a traveling salesman.

Dr. Milford is making good as a traveling man, and is very popular with his fellows on the road. His friends were glad to see him at home looking in the best of health, and he has the best wishes of all of them for a prosperous new year.

## Visiting in Abbeville.

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Beacham and children of Laurens, Mr. and Mrs. Worth Beacham of Ohio, and Mr. T. C. Shaw of Honea Path, were in the city the week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Johnson on North Main street.

Washington, Dec. 26.—The troubles of the Chicago packers are by no means over. What the department of justice has done in compromising a suit brought under the Sherman anti-trust law, will not swerve the federal trade commission from its course in bringing proceedings in thirty-one different cases in which it is alleged that the packers are violating the federal trade commission law with reference to unfair competition.

The full significance of a little statement issued recently, rather vaguely worded at a time, but conveying, nevertheless, the intentions of the federal trade commission, is just beginning to be apparent. It develops that the commission was fully aware of the negotiations between the department of justice and the packers and prepared the statement of its position to be issued coincidentally with the announcement of the compromise reached by the attorney general.

In many quarters, the federal trade commissions position was promptly interpreted as dissatisfaction with the course of the department of justice and the fact that the commission addressed its letter to the president and asked for a continuance of his confidence was construed as the outcropping of an inter-departmental quarrel.

## Two Departments Co-operate

But that isn't the situation. The feeling between the federal trade commission and the department of justice is friendly and co-operative. There is a perfect understanding of the scope and jurisdiction of each branch of the government with reference to the suits against the packers. The federal trade commission furnished to the department of justice much of the evidence which was used in the suit brought under the Sherman law.

That is only one of its functions, however. Under other laws, it is charged with the duty of compelling big business to desist from unfair trade practices and its orders are subject to affirmation or reversal in the United States court of appeals. So while the packers may reach an agreement with the department of justice as to their dissociation from related lines of business constituting a monopoly, that has nothing to do with the work of the federal trade commission under other laws.

The big question which the federal trade commission is trying to answer in behalf of independents and smaller concerns than the packers is this:

If the \$525,000,000 of capital which hitherto has been distributed in more than 400 different kinds of businesses must now be concentrated in the meat business and in the butter, egg, cheese and poultry business, what will \$525,000,000 of organized capital do to the persons engaged in the meat, butter, egg, cheese and poultry business?

## AMERICAN SAILORS STILL BEING HELD BY MEXICAN OFFICIALS

Mexico City, Thursday, Dec. 25.—Hilario Medina, in charge of the Mexican foreign office, declared today in answer to a question, that the two American sailors arrested at Mazatlan for assault upon a Mexican citizen were, so far as the foreign office knew, still held there under provisions of the Mexican common law.

Senator Medina said the foreign office had asked the Mazatlan authorities for further particulars regarding the case and asserted the American embassy had made no further move relative to the incident since it had been handed its first communication to the foreign office.

## COAL TRIBUNAL TO MEET NEXT MONDAY

Washington, Dec. 26.—The first meeting of President Wilson's coal tribunal will be held here Monday when the three members will lay the basis for future sessions which will be held after January 1 it was learned today at the White House.

## Library to Open.

The Library will open again Friday afternoon, Jan. 2, 1920, at three o'clock, having been closed for the Christmas holidays.

## McWHORTER-LOMAX.

Mr. and Mrs. James Robert McWhorter announce the marriage of their daughter Ellen Elizabeth to Mr. Lucien Mabry Lomax on Wednesday, the twenty-fourth of December, nineteen hundred and nineteen Atlanta, Georgia.

## OFF ON A BIG TRIP

Miss Ruth Howie and Miss Edna Bradley left Sunday for Des Moines, where they will represent Brenau at the big Y. W. C. A. Convention. This is a compliment to these young ladies and Abbeville is pleased at the distinction shown them.

## CONFERENCE NEXT WEEK TO PUT TREATY INTO EFFECT

Paris, Dec. 26.—Conferences will begin here early next week between allied and German delegates on measures preparatory to putting the peace treaty into effect, it was announced today. The sessions will be held under the presidency of General Lerond, a member of the French delegation.

Herr von Simson will head the German delegation. British and Italian delegates will arrive here Monday to have part in the deliberations.

The supreme council did not hold a session today but announced a meeting for tomorrow.

The final date of the exchange of ratifications of the treaty of Versailles now depends upon the speed, with which the allied missions in Germany can verify the German figures of available floating dock tonnage demanded by the allies as compensation for the sinking of the German warships at Scapa Flow. The Associated Press has been informed of this effect today at the headquarters.

Baron von Lersher, head of the German representatives said he thought this would take at least a fortnight, if not longer, in view of the difficulties of transportation in verifying the figures.

"A decided misunderstanding is reflected in the Paris press during the past two days regarding my projected trip to Berlin, which I subsequently abandoned," he said. "My object was to hurry, rather than delay, the putting of the Versailles treaty into effect. From Monday night until Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock I was deprived of any communication with any government by either telegraph or telephone, in consequence of which Berlin had no knowledge of the entente note or of the verbal communication given on this subject by M. Dutasta (secretary of the peace conference), until this morning.

## Claims Ready for Peace

"I thought that a trip to Berlin and a verbal explanation of the situation to the government would facilitate matters. The inference by the French papers that the German government wanted to delay the exchange of ratifications is absolutely unfounded. We want nothing more than effective restoration of peace.

"Peace means the repatriation of our soldiers, prisoners in France, who were obliged to spend another Christmas in captivity though hostilities have been suspended for more than a year.

"The fact that Herr von Simson arrived in Paris last Sunday to start negotiations for putting the treaty into effect proves that we had no intention to delay matters."

Regarding the entente note, Baron von Lersner said its tenor surprised him, as it seemed so little in accord with the progress of the negotiations.

"The Paris press," he said, "even announced our readiness to deliver over all the harbor material we could spare without endangering our economic existence, as compensation for the Scapa Flow sinkings, and forecast an early agreement on this question. If we did not get that far, it was not our fault. Our exports have not been asked to talk the matter over since a week ago."

## Denies Disloyalty Reports

Baron von Lersner asserted that according to verbal communication of M. Dutasta at the time of the delivery of the note, the entente made a diminution in the port tonnage demanded, conditional upon verification of Germany's claim that the entente estimate of the harbor material available were erroneous.

"I want to say in this connection," he continued, "that the statements in the French press that we were disloyal and gave out wrong figures on this tonnage is absolutely unfounded. This the investigation would prove. I promised M. Dutasta to ask my government to give all facilities for such investigations, and have no doubt that they will be accorded at once.

"We both agreed that it should be possible in a short time to verify our statements and come to a definite agreement regarding harbor materials to be delivered by Germany. I hope that our expectations will soon be fulfilled and that peace will finally be put into effect.

After the chief of the German delegation had informed M. Dutasta that he thought it advisable to go to Berlin, communication by special wire was restored, according to the information given out at the headquarters of the German delegation, and it was decided to telegraph the note and verbal communication, which taking into consideration the time for coding, transmission and decoding, could not have come to the knowledge of the German government before the morning of December 25.

## 5,000 STEEL MEN IN CLEVELAND TO RETURN

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 26.—First indications of a serious break in the ranks of the striking steel workers and predictions of an immediate end of the strike that has practically tied up Cleveland steel mills for three months, came today with the announcement that four lodges, claiming a membership of nearly 5,000 men, were preparing to declare a truce.

At a joint mass meeting to be held tonight the 5,000 strikers will vote to return to work or to remain out until the steel companies agree to recognize the union.

At noon indications pointed, it was said, to a vote in favor of returning to work.

Engraved Cards and Invitations—The Press and Banner Co.

## MORPHINE

habit cured the easy and gentle way. Whiskey habit by gradual reduction. Also Tobacco cure at

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## STOCKHOLDERS MEETING.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Building and Loan Association of Abbeville, will be held in Dr. G. A. Neuffer's office at 5 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, Jan. 7, 1920.

J. S. Morse, Secretary.

12-30-3t.

## CALLED HER FA TO

Six Years Ago, Thinking She Might  
She Is a Well, Strong Woman  
Her Recovery

Royce City, Tex.—Mrs. Mary Kilman, of this place, says: "After the birth of my little girl...my side commenced to hurt me. I had to go back to bed. We called the doctor. He treated me...but I got no better. I got worse and worse until the misery was unbearable...I was in bed for three months and suffered such agony that I was just drawn up in a knot... I told my husband if he would get me a bottle of Cardui I would try it... I commenced taking it, however, that evening I called my family about me... for I knew I could not last many days unless I had a change for trial.

## Vinol will Stop and Break

A constitutional remedy that rebuilds up the system. These in Vinol—Beef and Cod Liver Pancreatic and Glycerophosphates energy that throws off the cold reoccurrence. It has given nine years for sixteen years. HERE IS

## Dunn, N.C.

"I suffered with a chronic cold for four months, coughed day and night. Had to keep on working when I was not able to. I saw Vinol advertised and tried it, and I want to tell you it just cured that cold in a short time. It made me eat and sleep well, better every day."—J. C. Bagley, Dunn, N.C.

For all run-down, nervous, anaemic conditions, feeble old people and delicate children.

Vinol Create P. B. Spe

**PERFECTIO**  
**Oil Heaters**

For shaving—for bathing—for early-morning use—the Perfectio Oil Heater is the reliable standard. The Perfection brings heat moment's notice—wherever needed and in the quantity desired. It is clean, safe, portable, odorless—burns ten hours on a gallon of kerosene—is easily filled and wickless. Aladdin Security Oil gives the best results. At your dealer's. STANDARD OIL COMPANY (New Jersey) Washington, D. C. BALTIMORE, MD. Use Aladdin Security Oil